

Strengthening Ontario's Marketing Legislation

A CFFO Policy Statement

Whereas the CFFO vision document includes in its action plan a renewed commitment to fairness in the marketplace and makes this recommendation: "The strengthening and enhancing of marketing legislation to protect the right of all farmers to organize and negotiate a fair share of the consumer food dollar for their contribution to the food chain;"

Whereas Ontario's existing farm products marketing legislation enables farmers, by organizing, to manage production and/or negotiate prices with their immediate buyers;

Whereas the farmers' share of the consumer dollar continues to decline;

Whereas the retail price of food is low enough;

Whereas the ownership of input suppliers is concentrating in a few firms; and

Whereas processing, wholesaling and retailing of food is slipping into the hands of a very few firms;

Therefore be it resolved

That CFFO support strengthening and enhancing food marketing legislation so that all participants in the food chain (farmer to consumer) are enabled to be part of negotiating a fair share of the consumer food dollar for their contribution to the value of food.

That CFFO support strengthening and improving the Farm Products Marketing Act so that all participants (farm input suppliers, farmers, consumers and everybody in between) in the chain of a food product can get together and establish a Fair Share Payment System.

That CFFO establish a Fair Share Working Group with the following mandate:

- Document the fair share of the retail food dollar of selected farm commodities for each participant.
- Draft amendments for the Farm Products Marketing Act that enable all participants (farm input suppliers, farmers, consumers and everybody in between) in the chain of a food product to get together and establish a Fair Share Payment System.
- Approach others in the food chain and invite them to join the Fair Share Working Group and participate in the development of the Fair Share Payment System.

Adopted November 12, 2003
Provincial Board
Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario